

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 200577
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200577

FOR SEITZ

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 200577 ACTION MOGADISCIO
ADDIS ABABA KHARTOUM NAIROBI DAR ES SALAAM INFO ROME
DJIBOUTI 8 AUG 78.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200577

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, ET, SO, KE, SU, TZ, FAO

SUBJECT: CONTROL OF DESERT LOCUST

REFS: A) ROME 13931; B) STATE 199299

1. BASED ON THE FINDINGS OF THE JULY 26-28 FAO DESERT
LOCUST CONTROL COMMITTEE MEETING IN ROME, DEPARTMENT/AID
STRONGLY CONCURS THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR REGIONAL
AND NATIONAL DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS TO EXE-
CUTE EXTENSIVE OPERATIONS TO (A) LIMIT THE DEVASTATION
THE LOCUST SWARMS WILL HAVE ON CROPS AND PASTURAGE AND
(B) DIMINISH THE EFFECT THAT ESCAPING LOCUST WILL HAVE ON
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NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN EAST AFRICA AND BEYOND. PREVEN-
TIVE MEASURES NORMALLY TAKEN TO CONTROL THE LOCUST HAVE
BEEN SERIOUSLY DISRUPTED AND DELAYED BY ARMED CONFLICT IN
THE AFFECTED AREAS AND COMPLICATED BY MANAGERIAL DIFFICUL-
TIES WITHIN FAO AND DLCO/EA.

2. THEREFORE, US MISSIONS ARE INSTRUCTED TO CONSULT WITH

THE HOST GOVERNMENT AT HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL TO CONVEY STRONG US CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MAJOR, UNCONTROLLED LOCUST OUTBREAK AND DETERMINE IF HOST GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO (A) TAKE IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE CONTROL OPERATIONS OF DLCO/EA AND OTHER LOCUST

CONTROL ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND (B) ACCEPT FOREIGN TECHNICAL AND/OR MANAGERIAL ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE THE CAPABILITIES AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCAL LOCUST CONTROL OPERATIONS.

3. FOR NAIROBI: ADVISE VP MOI OF FULL USG SUPPORT FOR GOK'S KNOWN CONCERN OVER LACK OF TIMELY LOCUST CONTROL MEASURES AND HOPE THAT GOK WILL PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN ENCOURAGING ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI GOVERNMENTS TO COOPERATE WITH DLCO/EA IN INTENSIVE CONTROL MEASURES THIS MONTH. EMPHASIZE THAT US AND OTHER FOREIGN DONORS ARE NOW ALERT TO SERIOUSNESS OF PROBLEM, BUT MUST LOOK TO AFFECTED AFRICAN NATIONS TO ARRANGE FOR COOPERATION AMONG HORN DISPUTANTS IF MOBILIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL DONOR COMMUNITY IS TO HAVE ANY IMPACT.

4. FOR KHARTOUM: INFORM PRESIDENT NIMEIRI OF DEEP US CONCERN THAT LOCUST SWARMS NOT ADD TO SERIOUS ECONOMIC LOSSES ALREADY OCCASIONED BY FLOODS, WHICH ADDS TO URGENCY OF CONTROL MEASURES IN ERITREA. IN VIEW OF SUDAN'S STAKE
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IN OUTCOME AND NIMEIRI'S ROLE AS OAU PRESIDENT, USG WOULD SUPPORT GOS EFFORT TO ARRANGE TRUCE AMONG DISPUTANTS REGARDING EFFECTIVE LOCUST CONTROL OPERATIONS. WE WOULD HOPE NIMEIRI WOULD TALK ESPECIALLY TO ERITREAN AND SOMALI LEADERS. FYI: THE HEAVY RAINS WHICH SUDAN HAS RECEIVED CREATE IDEAL CONDITIONS FOR LOCUST EGG INCUBATION AND FOR VEGETATION PRODUCTION UPON WHICH THE LOCUST FEED.
END FYI

5. FOR ADDIS AND MOGADISCIO: ADVISE HOST GOVERNMENT OF USG CONCERN AND WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ASSISTANCE TO ALL AFFECTED NATIONS, BUT THAT EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE HINGES ON ABILITY OF GSDR AND PMGSE TO WORK OUT BASIS FOR DLCO/EA AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS TO OPERATE IN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA THIS MONTH.

6. FOR DAR ES SALAAM: WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO DISCUSS OUR CONCERN WITH PRESIDENT NYERERE IN THE HOPE THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK TO ETHIOPIANS.

7. WHILE USG PREPARED TO WORK WITH OTHER DONORS TO MEET EMERGENCY NEEDS IN AFFECTED COUNTRIES, MISSIONS ARE NOT

AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS TYPES OF US ASSISTANCE UNDER CONSIDERATION, SINCE RESPONSE WILL BE BASED UPON EVALUATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED BY ASSESSMENT TEAMS PER REF B.

8. ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES: ADVISE RESULTS YOUR CONSULTATIONS SOONEST. CHRISTOPHER

UNQUOTE

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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